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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

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<b>2001 Assembly Bill 293</b>	<b>Assembly Amendments 1 and 2</b>
<i>Memo published:</i> November 12, 2001 <i>Contact:</i> Joyce L. Kiel, Senior Staff Attorney (266-3137)	

### Current Law

Annually, each school board must administer the knowledge and concepts examination to all pupils enrolled in the school district in the fourth, eighth, and tenth grades, including pupils enrolled in the school board's charter schools. The school board must administer either the knowledge and concepts examination adopted or approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction or, beginning on July 1, 2002, its own fourth and eighth grade examination if the school board has developed or adopted its own examination. These requirements also apply to the operator of a charter school established or contracted for by the City of Milwaukee, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Milwaukee Area Technical College, or the University of Wisconsin-Parkside (collectively referred to as s. 118.40 (2r) charter schools).

Pupils enrolled in a special education program (that is, children with a disability), must be included in these examinations, with appropriate modifications where necessary, or in alternative assessments for the pupils who cannot participate in the examinations.

Upon the request of a pupil's parent or guardian, the school board must excuse the pupil from taking the examination.

### Engrossed 2001 Assembly Bill 293 (Assembly Bill 293, as Amended by Assembly Amendments 1 and 2)

Engrossed 2001 Assembly Bill 293 (that is, Assembly Bill 293, as amended by Assembly Amendments 1 and 2) provides that, subject to the statute relating to statewide or district-wide testing of pupils who are enrolled in a special education program, each school board and each operator of a s. 118.40 (2r) charter school must ensure that no pupil uses a calculator while taking the fourth grade knowledge and concepts examination. The prohibition would first apply to examinations administered during the 2002-03 school year.

*Assembly Amendment 1* deletes the bill's prohibition against using calculators for the eighth grade examination.

*Assembly Amendment 2* makes the prohibition against using calculators for the examinations subject to the special education law relating to statewide and district-wide assessments. Thus, under the engrossed bill, a pupil enrolled in a special education program could use a calculator in the fourth grade knowledge and concepts examination if use of the calculator is a necessary and appropriate modification.

The Assembly adopted Assembly Amendments 1 and 2 and ordered the bill engrossed. However, on November 8, 2001, the Assembly refused to suspend the rules to give the bill its third reading.

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